

BENTON CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL
Benton, Illinois 62812
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
August 10, 2021

The Board of Education of the Benton Consolidated High School District #103 met in Special Session on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 5:00 P.M. in the Benton Consolidated High School Board Room. President, Mark Minor called the meeting to order.

Opening prayer was led by Mark Dyel. Shane Cockrum led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Mark Minor, President; Robin LaBuwi, Vice-President; Mitch Bennett, Secretary; Shane Cockrum, Mark Dyel, and Marci Glover. Board member absent: Kenny Irvin.

Others present: Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Ron Giaccone, Board Attorney; and Wade Thomas, Principal.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

4.1 Litigation

Executive Session – Robin LaBuwi made the motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation. Mark Dyel seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

The Board, Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent, and Wade Thomas, Principal entered into an Executive Session in the Executive Board Room at 5:20 P.M.

Open Session - The Board reconvened in an Open Session at 6:10 P.M. Mitch Bennett, Secretary called the roll. Answering present: Shane Cockrum – yes, Mark Dyel – yes, Marci Glover - yes, Kenny Irvin – abs, Robin LaBuwi – yes, Mark Minor – yes, and Mitch Bennett – yes.

Others present: Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Ron Giaccone, Board Attorney; Wade Thomas, Principal; Kiley Docherty, Andy Sloan and Ron Winemiller, Faculty Members; parents and community members.

5. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS Kiley Docherty, April Minor and Ashley Tirey addressed the board regarding students having to wear a mask at school.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Amend Return to Learning Plan Mark Dyel made a motion to amend the Return to Learning Plan to go along with the Governor's recommendations. The motion died for lack of a second.

7. BOARD OF EDUCATION REMARKS

Shane Cockrum made this statement: I believe we best rule our own children and I strongly believe in evidence-based decision making. Therefore, I have decided to continue evaluating with my own eyes and ears. If I see imminent danger, as a public safety leader in the community, I will be the first to ask the board for a change in our decision making.

Marci Glover made this statement: I am a business owner who has also been mandated to mask my staff and students. The age of my students is much different, and although I may feel one way as a parent I have to make difficult decisions as a business owner.

8. ADJOURNMENT Robin LaBuwi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 P.M. Shane Cockrum seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

BOARD PRESIDENT

BOARD SECRETARY